

PATENT  
Serial No. 10/538,347  
Amendment in Reply to Office Action of January 17, 2007

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed January 17, 2007 which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the specification has been amended for better conformance with the drawings.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14 and 16-18 have been amended to delete reference designations. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14 and 16-18 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 3-4, 6, 9-10, 12, 15-16 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 3-4, 6, 9-10, 12, 15-16 and 18 contain allowable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, claims 3, 9 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice, and independent claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended to include the features of claims 3, 9

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and 15, respectively, without including features of intervening claim 2 as they are believed to be not necessary for patentability. Further, allowable claims 4, 6, 10, 12, 16 and 18 have been written in independent form.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 4, 6-7, 10, 12-13, 16 and 18 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, as claims 2, 5, 8, 11, 14 and 17 depend from independent claims 1, 7 and 13, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 2, 5, 8, 11, 14 and 17 also be allowed.

Further, it is believed that new claim 19 is also allowable and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

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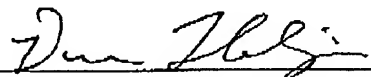
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It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due beyond the fee for seven additional independent claims to be charged to the credit card as noted by the enclosed authorization. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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Attorney for Applicant(s)  
April 16, 2007

Enclosure: Authorization to charge credit card \$1400 for seven independent claims in excess of three (i.e., ten total independent claims)

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